

WHEN YOU ARE SMOKING

By Sylva Gaboudikian

You ignite it, breathing slowly, hold it lightly flicking ash as if to demonstrate something about us to me exhaling the warmth that would burn me. But it's only to alleviate tedium. You don't inhale and put it down and forget it. I notice you smoke only part of each cigarette.

(Translated by Diana Der Hovanessian)

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